

## Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 GAC-01 OMB-01 EB-11 AEC-11 SCI-06

RSR-01 /156 W

----- 087450

R 170822 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3941

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USEC BRUSSELS 913

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 6155

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR EEC

SUBJ: FONMIN OHIRA'S VISIT TO PARIS

1. AMB CALLED ON FONMIN OHIRA MAY 15 TO INQUIRE ABOUT LATTER'S RECENT VISIT TO BELGRADE, PARI RAND EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HDQTRS IN BRUSSELS. ( BELGRADE AND BRUSSELS VISITS ARE SUBJECT OF SEPTELS).

2. TIMING - OHIRA SAID HE MADE TRIP TO ATTEND TENTH ANNUAL JAPAN-FRANCE MINISTERIAL MEETING, SERIES WHICH HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN STARTING TEN YEARS AGO DURING PREVIOUS TENURE AS FONMIN. OHIRA RECALLED AT THAT FIRST MEETING FRENCH HAD TREATED HIM AS UNUSUAL ORIENTAL GUEST WHOM THEY SHOULD ENTERTAIN BUT NOT REALLY TAKE SERIOUSLY. THIS TIME, FRENCH ATTITUDE WAS QUITE DIFFERENT AND THEY WERE EAGER TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE FULLY AND FRANKTY.

3. US- JAPAN MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY - FRENCH WERE VERY INTERESTED IN LEARNING JAPAN'S VIEW OF MST AND ITS FUTURE. OHIRA SAID HE STRESSED VALUE OF MST AS SYMBOL OF MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN US AND  
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JAPAN, FOUNDATION ON WHICH GOJ COULD BASE ITS POLICIES TOWARD PRC AND USSR, AND INSTRUMENT TO PREVENT TOO RAPID CHANGE OF STATUS QUO IN ASIA. ON FIRST POINT, OHIRA POINTED OUT THAT MST IS NOT MERELY DEFENSE AGREEMENT BUT IS ALSO ECONOMIC COOPERATION PACT AND THEREFORE IT UNDERPINS NOT ONLY US- JAPAN MILITARY ALLIANCE BUT MORE COMPREHENSIVE RELATIONSHIP AS WELL. WITH RESPECT TO PACE OF CHANGE IN ASIA, OHIRA HAD STATED THAT SITUATION OF TAIWAN AND KOREA SHOULD NOT BE ALTERED SUDDENLY AND THAT US MILITARY PRESENCE IN ASIA IS ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE AGAINST TOO RAPID CHANGE.

4. ECONOMIC COOPERATION - FRENCH EXHIBITED STRONG DESIRE TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH JAPAN AND MADE SEVERAL PROPOSALS. FIRST, THEY ASKED FOR GREATER JAPANESE AID TO FORMER FRENCH COTONIES IN AFRICA. OHIRA REPLIED THAT JAPAN IS GIVING PRIORITY TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS BUT IS ALSO INTERESTED IN ASSISTING OTHER DESERVING LDC' S, INCLUDING NATIONS OF AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA. OHIRA DID INDICATE JAPAN WOULD COOPERATE WITH FRENCH IN ASSISTING FRANCOPHONE NATIONS ON PROJECT BY PROJECT BASIS AND AFTER SUITABLE FEASIBILITY STUDIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. SECONDLY, FRENCH PROPOSED COOPERATION IN PRODUCTION OF ENRICHED URANIUM AND MENTIONED POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF ENRICHMENT PLANT. OHIRA RESPONDED THAT THESE PROPOSALS ARE ALREADY UNDER STUDY BY JAPANESE AEC AND HE WISHED TO AWAIT AEC REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS BEFORE MAKING DECISION. THIRDLY, FRENCH PROPOSED TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN DEVELOPING OUTER SPACE PROJECTS, TO WHICH OHIRA REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH SUBJECT BUT WOULD CONVEY IDEA TO RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES IN GOJ.

5. OHIRA COMMENTED TO AMBASSADOR THAT FRANCE BA JAPAN TRADE IS IN STATE OF NEAR BALANCE AT MAGNITUDE OF \$300 MILLION BUT BALANCE IS UNSTABLE BECAUSE OF RECENT SHARP INCREASE IN FRENCH IMPORTS OF JAPANESE ELECTRONIC WARES AND MOTORCYCLES. FRENCH EXPORTS TO JAPAN CONSIST PRIMARILY OF NICNET. TO HELP STABILIZE TRADE RELATIONSHIP, JAPAN WISHES TO OPEN ITS MARKETS TO GREATER VARIETY OF FRENCH IMPORTS, AND OHIRA HAD THEREFORE ASKED FRENCH TO MAKE GREATER EXPORT PROMOTION EFFORTS.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TOKYO06155  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 101  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11-Sep-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980224  
**Subject:** FONMIN OHIRA' S VISIT TO PARIS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, FR, EEC  
**To:** BONN  
EA  
LONDON  
PARIS  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
US EC BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005